

Amendment
Serial No. 10/825,816

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-3, 14, and 15 stand rejected. Claims 1, 5, 8, 11, and 13 are amended. Claims 2, 4, 12, and 14-17 are canceled without prejudice or a disclaimer. Claims 1 and the amended claim 5, 11, and 13 are independent claims.

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating that any one of claims 4-13, 16, and 17 would be allowed if rewritten as an independent claim incorporating all feature of the base and any intervening claim.

In response, the Applicant amends claim 1 to incorporate all features of claim 4 and the intervening claim 2. In addition, the applicant rewrites claims 5, 11, 13 as independent claims, incorporating all features of claim 1, the base claim, into each of claims 5, 11, and 13.


The Applicant respectfully requests passage of claims 1, 5, 11, and 13, and respective dependent claims.

If any issues remain which may be best resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to kindly telephone the undersigned telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

2/26/07


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